

Secretary of Navy
13 August, 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR THE NATIONAL ADVISORY AUTHORITY:

Subject: N.I.A. 6

1. It is requested that each member of the National Intelligence Authority indicate his action on the subject paper by returning the attached memorandum to the Secretary, after making appropriate entry in the space provided.

James S. Lay, Jr.
(JAMES S. LAY, JR.
Secretary, N.I.A.)

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY, NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AUTHORITY:

Subject: N.I.A. 6

1. The subject paper is:

- a. Approved without change
- b. Approved, subject to the minor amendments set out below
- c. Disapproved. Request meeting of N.I.A. to consider paper

✓

2. Suggestions or amendments: *

DECLASSIFIED AND APPROVED FOR
RELEASE
BY THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
AGENCY
DATE: 2001

Forrestal

(Signature)
14 AUG 1946

(Date)

Return to: Room 2165
New War Dept. Bldg.

* Inclusion of suggestions or amendments may require security classification of paper.

Col. Eddy

EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs

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Comment on NIA, Control and Supervision
of Intelligence Activities Related to Foreign
Atomic Energy Developments and Potentialities

Document No. [redacted]
Declassify
Class. Char. [redacted]
Next Review Date
Auth. [redacted]
Date 5/5/92

1. I had understood the immediate problem to be the transfer of the ~~research~~ group (concerned with intelligence about foreign research into atomic energy) from the Manhattan District to the Central Intelligence Group, to preserve the value of this work and prevent the dispersion of the team. This proposal as described in Paragraph 2 of Enclosure "A" is approved by me.

2. I do not have the knowledge nor the authority to give equal approval to Paragraph 1, according to which "the Director of Central Intelligence, subject to the direction and control of this Authority, is hereby authorized and directed to coordinate the collection of all intelligence information related to foreign atomic energy developments and potentialities..." There is no doubt that the Central Intelligence Group is the logical place for intelligence on atomic energy insofar as the Departments represented on the National Intelligence Authority are concerned. However, the top secret nature of the atomic projects may well include plans for intelligence work which are not known by other Departments of the Government. I shall, therefore, require time and opportunity to receive instructions from the Department of State before indicating approval of Paragraph 1 of the enclosed draft.

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COPY NO. _____

DRAFT

August 1946

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AUTHORITY
COORDINATING
CONTROL AND SUPERVISION OF INTELLIGENCE
ACTIVITIES RELATED TO FOREIGN ATOMIC ENERGY
DEVELOPMENTS AND POTENTIALITIES

Memorandum by the Director of Central Intelligence
With the Unanimous Concurrence of the Intelligence
Advisory Board

Foreign atomic energy developments and potentialities constitute a paramount field of intelligence related to the national security. As such, the National Intelligence Authority is responsible for planning, developing, and coordinating Federal foreign intelligence activities in this field.

To date, the Foreign Intelligence Branch of the office of Major General Leslie R. Groves, the Commanding General of the Manhattan Engineer District, has been the agency performing functions of collecting and evaluating intelligence related to foreign atomic energy developments and potentialities. This Branch has operated under the personal direction of General Groves, who is in turn responsible, by Presidential directive, to the Secretary of War.

The newly created Atomic Energy Commission will be concerned with the entire field of atomic energy in the United States, including commercial as well as military aspects. The Commission will, upon Presidential directive, take over the responsibilities of the Manhattan Engineer District. It is considered appropriate at this time that the National Intelligence Authority should authorize and direct the Director of Central Intelligence to coordinate the collection of all intelligence information related to foreign atomic energy developments and potentialities affecting the national security, and to accomplish the correlation, evaluation and appropriate dissemination within the Government of the resulting intelligence. This should include control and supervision of the activities of the Foreign Intelligence Branch

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operated by General Groves. It should also be possible, when deemed expedient by the Secretary of War and the Director of Central Intelligence, to transfer the personnel and working files of this Branch to the Central Intelligence Group.

The enclosed draft N.I.A. Directive is designed to carry out the conclusions contained in the above paragraph. This Directive has been unanimously concurred in by the Director of Central Intelligence and the Intelligence Advisory Board, which in this case included the Commanding General of the Manhattan Engineer District.

It is recommended that the National Intelligence Authority approve the draft directive in Enclosure "A".

HOYT S. VANDENBERG
Lieutenant General, USA
Director of Central Intelligence

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ENCLOSURE "A"

D R A F T

PROPOSED N.I.A. DIRECTIVE
COORDINATION
CONTROL AND SUPERVISION OF INTELLIGENCE
ACTIVITIES RELATED TO FOREIGN ATOMIC ENERGY
DEVELOPMENTS AND POTENTIALITIES

Pursuant to the President's letter of 22 January 1946, designating this Authority as responsible for planning, developing, and coordinating all Federal foreign intelligence activities so as to assure the most effective accomplishment of the intelligence mission related to the national security, the following policies and procedures relating to Federal intelligence activities in the field of foreign atomic energy developments and potentialities affecting the national security are announced:

1. The Director of Central Intelligence, subject to the direction and control of this Authority, is hereby authorized and directed to coordinate the collection of all intelligence information related to foreign atomic energy developments and potentialities affecting the national security, and to accomplish the correlation, evaluation and appropriate dissemination within the Government of the resulting intelligence. The Director of Central Intelligence is further authorized to arrange with other intelligence agencies of the Government to utilize their collection facilities in this field.

2. To accomplish the function assigned in paragraph 1, the Secretary of War and the Commanding General of the Manhattan Engineer District have authorized the Director of Central Intelligence to assume the control and supervision of the Foreign Intelligence Branch operated by the Commanding General of the Manhattan Engineer District. The personnel and working files of this Branch may be transferred from the Manhattan Engineer District to the Central Intelligence Group at any time agreed to by the Secretary of War and the Director of Central Intelligence.

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Enclosure "A"